

CLAIMS

1. In a WDM communication system carrying a plurality of WDM channels, apparatus for amplifying a plurality of optical signals, said apparatus comprising:
 - 5 a first group of optical amplifiers, each of said first group of amplifiers amplifying a selected optical signal being carried by one of a first group of adjacent WDM channels;
 - a second group of amplifiers, each of said second group of amplifiers amplifying a selected optical signal being carried by one of a second group of adjacent WDM channels;
- 10 a first optical energy source providing pump energy to amplifiers of said first group of optical amplifiers; and
- a second optical energy source providing pump energy to amplifiers of said second group of optical amplifiers.

15